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The World.

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GOOD NEWS FROM GROTON.

The nation, which has watched with anxiety the course of the illness of the President's son, will rejoice to learn that the improvement to-day is so marked that unless some unexpected change occurs the President will feel justified in returning to Washington to-night.

THE AUTOMOBILE JUGGERNAUT.

Little Henry Theis, killed by Banker Thomas's automobile yesterday, is the reckless chauffeur's third victim and the second child victim in this city within three months. Mr. Thomas says that the boy darted in front of the machine and he "couldn't help running him down." It usually happens so. The chauffeur who ran down Mrs. Barbara Klinge from behind the ambush of an Eighth avenue car "couldn't help it" because he didn't see her in time. There was a similarly fatal situation and a similar excuse in the case of the lad crushed on Fifth avenue near Eighteenth street.

An idea of the speed at which Thomas was driving his automobile is to be had from the statement that after the boy was struck and the brakes applied the impetus of the vehicle carried it 200 feet before it stopped. The great momentum of the Empire State Express, as testified before the Coroner's jury, can be checked within 800 feet. It is the high rate of speed which the chauffeur aims to attain, in complete disregard of the rights of pedestrians, that makes such "accidents" so easily possible and so alarmingly frequent.

Slow Progress.—The thirty-fourth annual convention of the National American Woman Suffrage Association was only able to report that the adoption of women suffrage was no further off than when the association was started. It must be admitted that the male suffragist has troubles of his own.

THE BAGGAGE-INSPECTION ABUSES.

Secretary of the Treasury Shaw has given a hearing to the delegation of ladies who called to protest against the baggage-inspection outrage as practised on incoming passengers at this port, and has indicated that he had some changes in his mind.

It is to be hoped that he fully understands the question and that he contemplates nothing less than a complete reform and a return to a system of inspection based on common sense and a decent regard for the rights of all travelers, especially of American citizens, returning home.

The rules for the inspection of passengers' baggage are wholly under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Treasury, and he is responsible for the manner of their enforcement.

Russell Sage's Day Off.—The ticker being quiet yesterday, Russell Sage took a day off. He spent most of it on the Speedway, and to a reporter later in the day said: "I feel pretty near as lively and as chipper as my black filly Nellie I drove behind up to Harlem, although perhaps not as young." Mr. Sage at eighty-five, snatching a few hours of recreation from business, is an example to men anxious to retire at sixty.

APPRAISING A SCIENTIST.

The English capitalists who are backing Marconi, and who do not wish to take any risks that might be avoided, have insured the life of the young inventor and have shown their sense of his value as an investment by taking out a policy for \$750,000.

This is probably a higher valuation than has ever been placed on the life of a scientist, but it is not excessive. Indeed, it is far below the full value of the risk. The inventor of to-day is a creator of wealth. Mr. Carnegie has recently given testimony to the value of the services of his spectacled German chemist in making his fortune, and it suffices to mention the names of Edison, and Tesla, and Nobel, and Westinghouse, and Bessemer to show that merely as an investment a Marconi is cheap at three-quarters of a million dollars.

Washington Weather.—The practical difficulty in the way of changing the Presidential inauguration day to suit the Washington weather is that if the weather is too cold for a celebration on March 4 it is too hot for a session of Congress after April 30, the date proposed for the beginning of the new administration year.

"MARTIAL LAW."

Now that the city of Paterson has safely passed the critical period of its fire ordeal and dispensed with further use of its military defenders, it is worth while insisting that there was no occasion for calling on the militia. The welfare of the city and the lives and property of the citizens would have been quite as well protected by a civilian force of special policemen duly sworn in.

The practice of appealing to the military arm of the Government is to be deprecated except in cases of absolute and unquestioned necessity. And above all the resort to "martial law" is to be condemned, not merely as un-American and un-republican, but as unlawful. What authority is there for the declaration of "martial law" on account of a big fire?

Showing Us the Way.—There is a lesson for New York in the action of the French Government in deciding to spend some sixty-odd millions of dollars on the improvement of her already extensive system of canals. The only way to get these improvements is by paying for them.

A SLUMP IN TITLES.

There are fashions in marriage as much as in dress. A woman changes her ideal of a husband as frequently as she does her ideal of a frock. She must keep up with the times.

It is that the Baron de Tallieu comes to this country at a peculiarly inauspicious moment, for the taste of the ladies has changed from Parisian titled "creations" to American tailor-made matrimonial goods. And the poor Count who advertised for a wife at once beautiful, wealthy and refined has had encouraging answers only from ladies who have been too busy taking in the washing to keep up with the latest fashion in matrimony.

However, if he can keep up heart for yet a little while the swiftly changing "modes" may turn back to bangs and bustles and fire sales of foreign affections, and our Count may be triumphantly worn by some wife of beauty, wealth and refinement.

JOKES OF OUR OWN

RAZOR-EDGED.

"The Miss Calanque still sharp in her manner toward you?"
"I should say so! Why she's grown so sharp that now she cuts me when ever we meet."

THE DIFFERENCE.

"What is the difference between a reformer and a fanatic?"
"It all depends on the way the man who talks about him voted."

SOLES AND HEELS.

"I saw in Quackenbush says hypnotism will save souls."
"That feet and his skill at heading ought to make his fortune if he ever becomes a shoemaker."

AT THE CORONATION.

"When I run across to attend the coronation the first thing I do will be to go to Pico-dilly."
"I wish you'd pick one for me too."

THE OTHER WAY.

"What do you suppose will be the most popular thoroughfare of the future?" Broadway?
"No. Subway."

UP TO DATE.

"This story tells how the hero tore up the street in pursuit of the runaway horses."
"Tore up the street, eh? I'll bet \$5 he was a tunnel contractor."

MORE INTERESTING.

"Were you interested in that account of the Washington man who suddenly disappeared?"
"Well, I'd have been more interested in an account of a man who gradually disappeared."

BY ANY OTHER NAME.

"Prince Henry may be surprised when he finds we have no leisure class in America."
"Oh, yes, we have. Only here we call them hoboes."

WHENCE HER SUDDENNESS.

"But this is so sudden!" he exclaimed when his offer of hand and heart had been accepted immediately. "I supposed you'd take a few days at least to consider my proposition."

"I meant it to be," she replied, the curves around her mouth anguishing into determination. "I have been proposed to before."—Boston Transcript.



BUTTRICK, JOHN M.—who recently died in Lowell, Mass., owned the gun which fired the first shot of the American Revolution.

DIRAISON, LIEUT.—of the French Army, has had to fight five duels on account of his recent book, "Les Mortimer," each of which duels is said to have boomed the book, until now 25,000 copies have been sold.

LOTE, PIERRE—the famous French writer, has added painting to his many talents.

MCOOK, PROF. JOHN J.—declares that tramps are healthier and live longer than respectable people.

MONKS, J. S. J.—the American painter, has lived with farmers in the sheep districts all over the world in order to paint sheep in their every phase.

MULLICK, FRANK—of Wisconsin, has contributed a granite pedestal for the Kosciuszko monument.

ROBERTS, DR. H. H.—the Poughkeepsie millionaire, has forced each of his children to learn a trade.

ROOSEVELT, PRESIDENT—has been invited to attend the Centennial banquet at Cincinnati on March 30, on which date that city will be 100 years old.

VON PREUSCHEN, LIEUT. FRANZ—the Austrian naval officer, is half American, his mother having been born in Texas.



Albany's Commissioner of Charities and Correction has called the attention of the Mayor to the facts that large numbers of southern negro girls are being brought to Albany to act as servants, and that after four or six months they invariably become sick and apply for hospital treatment. The city and county are thus put to great expense, he says, and he suggests that a law be enacted compelling the employers of such girls to furnish bonds indemnifying the city and county treasury.

The Baroness von Oebenhausen, of Boston, whose friends celebrated her eightieth birthday a few days ago, and who attained distinction by her services as nurse on the battlefields of Europe, has been invited to meet Henry of Prussia on the occasion of his visit to the Irish. This exceptional honor is tendered her because of the iron cross which the Prince's grandfather, Emperor William I., presented to her in recognition of her work for his soldiers.

The wife of Sir Henry Stanley, who was formerly Dorothy Tennant, is one of the London hostesses at whose home Americans are always welcomed.

The works of Ada Negri, the Italian poetess, are said to have a larger sale than those of any other author in Italy. She has walked the proverbial path of genius, poverty, though her writings have since placed her in comfortable circumstances.

The Funny Side of Life.

THINGS WE SHALL NOT SHOW PRINCE HENRY. BORROWED JOKES.



OUR WOMEN IN A BARGAIN RUSH.

A PRETTY PICKLE.



The Shipwrecked One—Well, here I am in a strange country and not a cent of money in my pocket!—From The King.

A GOOD REASON.



Miss Quizzer—Why is it that so many of your funny pictures are about tramps, Mr. Palette?
Palette—Oh, that's because it's easy to make him jokes!

NO CHANCE.

"N-n-no!" he was the last man I saw. I wouldn't marry you."
"But the crowd would be so dense, and you couldn't fight your way through."—Chicago Record.

Andrew Johnson.
To the Editor of The Evening World:
It is really a shame the way the B. R. T. Co. treat its patrons, and I would like to see a bill enacted that let it quit the "Change cars for Ridgewood" business at Myrtle Avenue and Broadway. I would like to ask one of the officers who are supposed to ride in those Myrtle Avenue "bushes" if it is right to run these so-called cars only as far as Broadway. There you get chased out in this nice old weather and you have to wait for quite a while until a Ridgewood car comes to see if you don't want a severe cold, you can walk home the rest of your way. But this seems to be the good reason for us. Is there no way to stop such outrage?
JOHN SCHULTZ.

For a New Holiday.
To the Editor of The Evening World:
We have too few legal holidays. If Congress would set aside one day of each month as a legal holiday to be observed all over the country (unless an emergency as is Sunday) we

HE LOOKS AS IF HE DID.



"He came off with flying colors."

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE ON MANY TOPICS.

Complaints of Brooklyn Rapid Transit.
To the Editor of The Evening World:
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JOHN SCHULTZ.

Who Can Trace These?
To the Editor of The Evening World:
Who can trace the following superlatives to their source? It will be of interest to everyone if some reader can enlighten us. The superlatives are: That thirteen must not sit at a table that is as long as the back of a king; that a horse shoe found or hung up brings good luck; that meeting a cross-eyed person brings bad luck; that rapping wood averts evil; that one must look at the moon over the right shoulder.
PHILOLOGIST.

Legal Holiday in Nine States.
To the Editor of The Evening World:
A says that Lincoln's birthday was a legal holiday. B says no. Which is right?
A. AND B.

For More "E" Express Trains.
To the Editor of The Evening World:
Why cannot every second train on the Ninth Avenue "E" be an express from Fifty-ninth to Houston street? This would be of great help to the mass of people living between Sixtieth and the Hundredth streets. West. The "E" service is a little better than of old, but there is a lack of room for improvement even yet.
WEST SIXTY-SEVENTH STREET.

To Reclaim Jersey Flats.
To the Editor of The Evening World:
It would be a grand thing for some multi-millionaire to drain the Jersey meadows and run a bridge across the North River, and then open up thousands of acres of spare land to overcrowded New Yorkers who could live there and work in this city, going back and forth in thirty minutes and at five cents fare. This is better charity than library buildings, I think.
MRS. L. A. MARTINE.

WORDS.
Give me but words to speak and I will cease to fret;
Give me but words and 'neath the sky
No honor may be held too high
For me to get.
We scoff at words as empty things,
Of little worth,
But 'tis the gift of gab that brings
The best returns to slaves or kings
Down here on earth.
—Chicago Record-Herald.

Great Ristori.
How the Actress
Looks To-Day.

ADELAIDE RISTORI, most famous of Italian actresses, has just celebrated her eightieth birthday. The anniversary was the occasion of a fête at Rome, where the aged artiste is idolized.

Mme. Ristori is known in private life as the Marchioness Capranica del Grillo. She has acted in every country of the world which boasted a theatre. Her father was an actor, and while still a mere child Adelade went on the stage. Her success was instant. The French Government offered to support her while she learned enough French to enable her to take Rachel's place at the Theatre Francaise. But as this offer debared her from playing in Italy she refused; loving her native land as a true Italian can.

She received a veritable ovation on each of her several visits to this country, notably when she appeared in New York with Edwin Booth, as Lady Macbeth.

At the present day Mme. Ristori lives in semi-retirement with her son and daughter. She is still in mourning for the husband she loved, and who, with her children, accompanied her on all her theatrical tours. Tommaso Salvini and other world-famed artists took part in the celebration of her eightieth birthday. Our own dear Mrs. W. J. Gilbert, who is older than Ristori, is still acting eight times every week.

THE N. P.'S PRESIDENT.

How J. P. Morgan Made Him Over 'Phone.

ABSOLUTE simplicity characterizes J. Pierpont Morgan's methods. No matter how gigantic the undertaking he goes about its accomplishment with no more ceremony than the ordering of a meal. He spends less than five hours at his office daily, but in that time he probably sees more visitors and personally attends to more details of his numerous enterprises than the head of any other great Wall street institution.

Morgan is an attentive listener in business, accurate in judgment and astonishingly quick in arriving at a decision.

An associate tells an incident which illustrates his rapid methods of organization.

When the Northern Pacific Railroad was reorganized recently Morgan looked about for a man to take the Presidency. He was soon satisfied that Charles S. Mellen, of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, would do for the job.

Morgan called up Mellen, who was located in New Haven, on the long-distance telephone.

"Is this Mellen?" asked the King of Finance.

"This is Mellen," came the response.

"This is Morgan. Would you like to be President of the Northern Pacific?" blurted out the Wall street ruler.

"Like it? Well, yes," responded Mellen.

"Can you take it?" queried Morgan.

"Sure," assured Mellen.

"You're President," said Morgan.

Within twenty-four hours Mellen was in charge of the great property.

Moral: The Ball that Will Catch a Fish will not do as Preservative.

W. BOB HOLLAND.

GEN. MILES'S COURTESY.

Gen. Miles was entertaining a gentleman from the South the other morning who came to call upon him with Representative Rixey, of Virginia, when the Southerner, a blunt man, said:

"So you, Gen. Miles, are the man who put handcuffs upon Jefferson Davis."

"Yes," replied the General, with great suavity, "but you must remember that I was a very young man at that time. I am older now and know a good deal more than I did then."

The General's callers went away greatly pleased.—Washington Post.

A REVOLUTIONARY AGE.

Soulless corporations, heartless courtesies and conscienceless rascals of various sorts we have had with us now these many years, and it looks very much as if a kind of providence was about to even things up a little by providing us with such useful contrivances as wireless telegraphy, heatless light, smokeless powder, boneless shad and seedless oranges. If some genius will rise up now and give us a breed of electric bugs and stingless mosquitoes, together with some lossless umbrellas and spendless cash, we shall all be happy and content.—Ladies Weekly.